



## *The President's Daily Brief*

16 March 1972

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

President Bhutto's trip to Moscow could help set the stage for future Pakistani talks with India and Bangladesh. (Page 1)

South Vietnam

(Page 2)

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The Greek Government can hardly be satisfied with President Makarios' reply to its demands, and the Turks are unhappy with the UN's agreement to leave the Czech arms in Cypriot hands. (Page 3)

In a continuing effort to safeguard his longevity in office, Chile's President Allende is still trying to woo the military over to his side. (Page 4)

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USSR-PAKISTAN

*President Bhutto arrived in the USSR today for a three-day visit during which Moscow can be expected to urge him to begin negotiations with Bangladesh and with India.*

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*In bargaining for Bhutto's agreement to begin negotiations, Moscow is likely to offer to resume economic aid to Pakistan, perhaps including the immediate return of the 300 technicians withdrawn when the war broke out.*

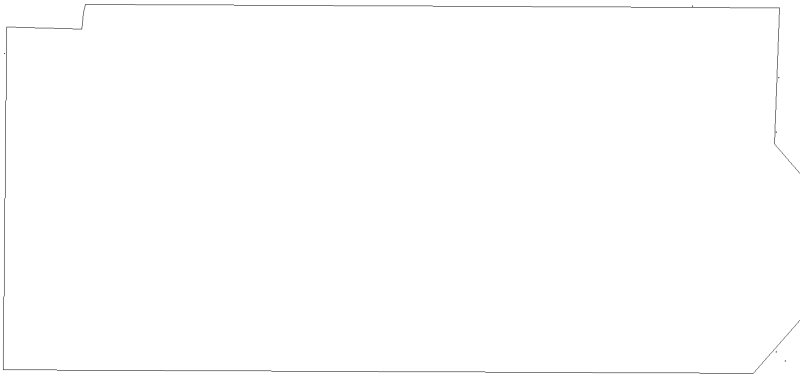
*Bhutto has been careful not to be publicly hostile to the USSR since he assumed office. He wants to avoid cementing an Indo-Soviet alliance against Pakistan.*

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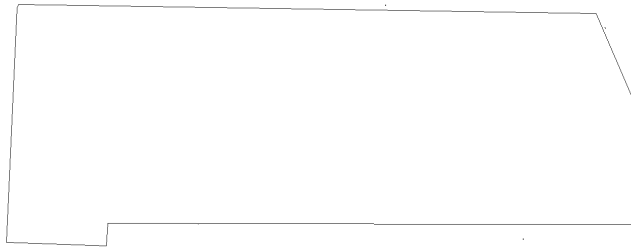
*He is also anxious for Moscow to resume economic aid, but he remains suspicious of alleged Soviet cooperation with opposition groups in Pakistan. Although Bhutto may stress his willingness to begin talks with the Indians, his price for formal recognition of Bangladesh may involve more economic aid than Moscow is willing to provide.*

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SOUTH VIETNAM



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CYPRUS

President Makarios and UN officials on Cyprus have worked out an arrangement on the recently imported Czech arms that provides for periodic inspection by UN forces but leaves the arms in Makarios' custody. The UN Secretary General today will issue a general report on the arrangement to the Security Council. The report will obscure the fact that the weapons have not been brought under UN control in the hope of avoiding a categorical Turkish rejection of the plan.

*Heretofore the Turks had insisted on a complete and immediate turnover of the arms to the UN. The Greek representative at the UN has expressed satisfaction with the plan, but it is not clear that he was speaking for his government.*

Makarios is willing to make a show of compromise in the political field, hinting at some changes in his cabinet. However, he will not give in to the Greek demands that he reconstitute his government on a broader base and then resign. The US Embassy in Athens estimates that the Greek Government cannot accept this response and must produce some concrete results or face growing pressure from Turkey.

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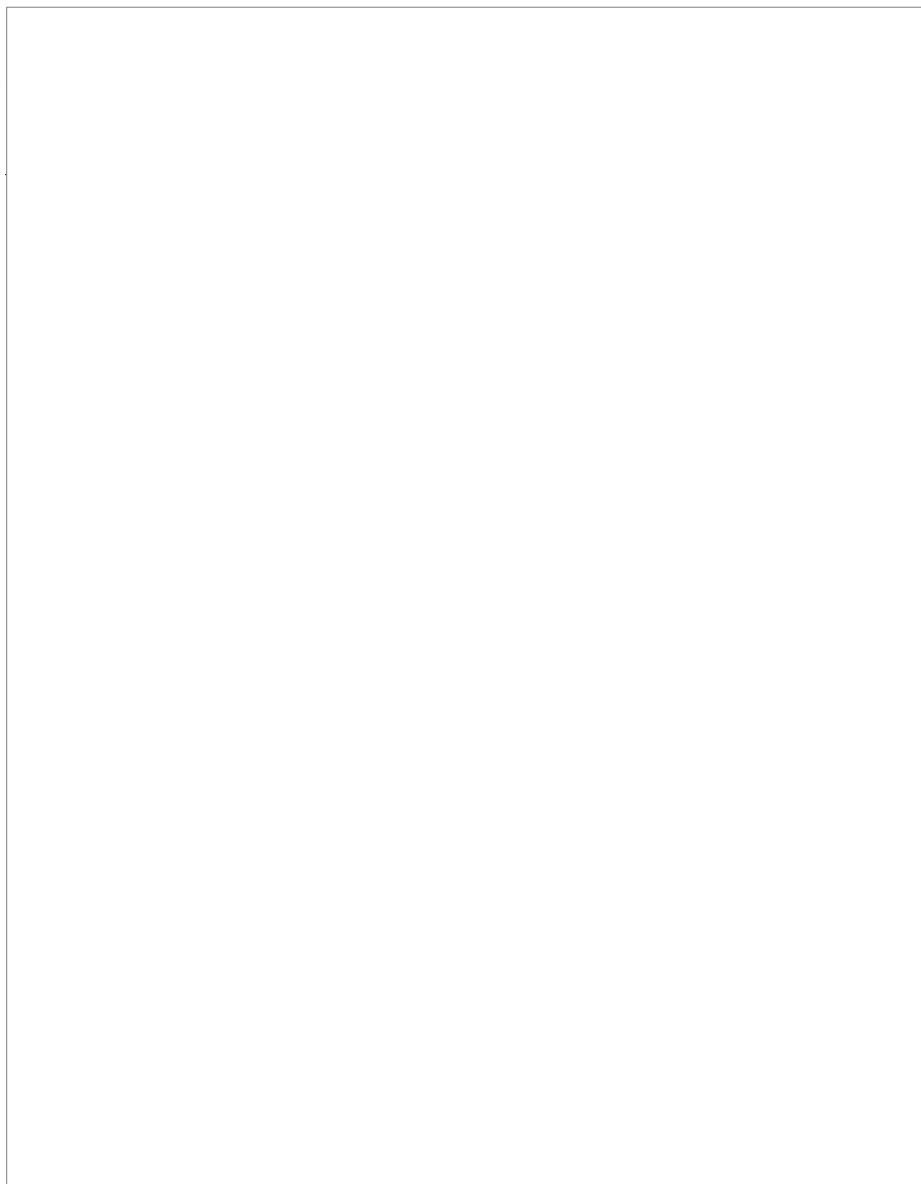
CHILE

President Allende soon will renew his efforts to include at least one military leader in his cabinet, [redacted] He hopes this would help blunt military opposition as well as to give his government added prestige. At the same time, several recent shifts in key military assignments reflect Allende's efforts to relegate potential military plotters to peripheral positions.

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*Ever since his inauguration in late 1970, Allende has cultivated the military by defending them against critics, raising their pay, and playing upon their loyalty to the constitution and reluctance to be drawn into partisan politics. The military, however, continue to experience the same deep divisions that permeate Chilean society as a whole. These divisions and Allende's tactics reduce the chance that any incipient coup plotting would succeed.*

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NOTES

South Vietnam - Cambodia: The 4,500-man South Vietnamese force operating in a major Communist base area in Cambodia west of Tay Ninh Province has destroyed enemy camps and large supply caches, but has not yet made any significant contact with enemy forces. The South Vietnamese commander, General Minh, is more interested in disrupting one of the enemy's main staging areas for attacks into South Vietnam than in taking on the three Communist divisions which are concentrated nearby. Minh apparently plans to end this operation in a few days.

USSR-Cuba: Fidel Castro may visit the USSR in May. Our embassy in Moscow has reported that an official propagandist, lecturing recently on foreign affairs, asserted without elaboration that Castro would come at that time. Should Castro do so, it would be his first visit since 1964, and it is likely that he would attend the annual May Day observance. The Cuban leader no doubt would use such a visit to seek reaffirmation of the USSR's commitment to Cuba prior to President Nixon's summit meetings in Moscow, and he would be likely to get it.



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